# CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
# COST ESTIMATE

August 22, 2003

## S. 793

## A bill to provide for increased energy savings and environmental benefits through the increased use of recovered mineral component in federally funded projects involving procurement of cement or concrete

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on July 30, 2003*

S. 793 would require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to study the benefits of using recycled materials in cement or concrete projects that are paid with federal funds. The bill also would require the Administrator to establish criteria for using certain granular mine tailings in such projects. Based on information from EPA, CBO estimates that implementing S. 793 would cost less than $500,000 in each year over the 2004-2006 period, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting S. 793 would not affect direct spending or receipts.

S. 793 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. The bill might impose some costs on recipients of federal grants by encouraging the increased use of certain recycled materials in federally funded construction projects, including highway projects, that use cement or concrete. Since this provision would apply only to projects that receive federal funding, it would be a condition of federal aid rather than a mandate.

On April 7, 2003, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 1346, the Federal Government Energy Management Improvement Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Government Reform on March 20, 2003. H.R. 1346 would require the same study as S. 793, and our cost estimate of the House bill did not include any significant cost for that requirement.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Rachel Milberg (for federal costs) and Gregory Waring (for the impact on state and local governments). The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.